

Message Text

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ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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R 171557Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4819

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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FOLLOWING MESSAGE DRAFTED BY DEPARTMENT OF STATE ESCORT
OFFICER WITH USDEL TO IPU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJ: INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION: MIDDLE EAST

1. IPU CONFERENCE CONCLUDING SEPTEMBER 12 WAS DOMINATED
BY MIDDLE EAST ISSUE, WITH HARDLINE ARABS ENGINEERING
PARLIAMENTARY VICTORY FOR UNCOMPROMISING RESOLUTION CON-
DEMNING ISRAEL AND SUPPORTING PALESTINIAN CAUSE.

2. EFFORTS BY WESTERN DELS TO OBTAIN RESOLUTION GENERALL
SUPPORTING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS WERE OPPOSED BY ARABS
IN DRAFTING GROUP SESSIONS AND IN POLITICAL COMMITTEE.
HOWEVER, PREAMBULAR REFERENCE TO SC RES 242 AND PREAMBU-
LAR PARA "WELCOMING" RECENT EGYPT-ISRAEL INTERIM AGREE-
MENT WERE NARROWLY INCORPORATED IN ARAB DRAFT RESOLUTION
DESPITE ARAB OPPOSITION.

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3. ARABS SEEMED TO BE TAKING CUE FROM PLO REPS BEHIND SCENES. JORDANIAN DELEGATE ABDUL MONIM RIFAI TOOK LEAD IN DRAFTING SESSIONS IN HOLDING OUT FOR LANGUAGE OF ARAB DRAFT, AND WAS SUPPORTED BY SYRIAN (MRS. SALMA NAGIB), AND, TO LESSER EXTENT, BY LEBANESE (AMIN EL HAFEZ). EGYPTIANS WERE NOT SELECTED BY ARAB GROUP FOR THE THREE SEATS ALLOCATED TO THEM ON DRAFTING COMMITTEE. US REP (CONGRESSMAN DERWINSKI), BELGIAN, DUTCH, AND FRENCH TRIED SKILLFULLY IN VARIOUS WAYS TO GET MODERATE RESOLUTION, BUT WESTERN DELS SIMPLY DID NOT HAVE VOTING SUPPORT. ALTHOUGH THREE ARABS SAT WITH ISRAELI REP (ABBA EBAN) IN DRAFTING COMMITTEE, THEY DID NOT ADDRESS EBAN DIRECTLY AND IGNORED REQUEST OF DRAFTING GROUP CHAIRMAN (DUTCH) TO MEET IN SMALLER GROUP WITH ONE WESTERN DEL AND ISRAEL ON DRAFT RESOLUTION. EBAN IN SEVERAL INTERVENTIONS MAINTAINED HIS RECORD OF ELOQUENCE.

4. IN SEPARATE BUT RELATED DEBATE IN IPU COUNCIL SEPT. 12, MAJORITY OF ARABS, EAST EUROPEANS, AND NON-ALIGNED ADOPTED CHANGE IN RULES TO PERMIT OBSERVER STATUS BY GROUPS RECOGNIZED AS OBSERVERS BY UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WESTERN DELS, INCLUDING US, OPPOSED CHANGE, WHICH HAD EFFECT OF RETROACTIVELY LEGALIZING PLO PRESENCE. COUNCIL THEN PROCEEDED TO AUTHORIZE PLO OBSERVER FOR SPRING IPU MEETINGS IN MEXICO CITY IN APRIL 1976.

5. COMMENTS FROM OTHER DELS SUBSEQUENTLY OBTAINED BY EMBASSY FOLLOW IN SEPTEL.

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